

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for treating a human male subject having erectile dysfunction and for diagnosing penile atherosclerosis as a primary cause for the erectile dysfunction, the method producing an erection suitable for sexual intercourse, comprising:

5 a) applying momentary vacuum therapy to the penis of the human male subject for reducing penile atherosclerosis.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein:

10 a) an erectile dysfunction medication for inducing an erection is administered to the human male subject prior to intercourse.

3. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

 a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a PDE-5 inhibitor alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and
 b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a PDE-5 inhibitor.

- 15 4. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

 a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a PDE-5 inhibitor alone has become one of less effective and ineffective in inducing an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and
 b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a PDE-5 inhibitor.

5. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a PDE-5 inhibitor alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse without adverse side effects; and

5 b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a PDE-5 inhibitor.

6. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a vasodilator alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and

b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a vasodilator.

10 7. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a vasodilator alone has become one of less effective and ineffective in inducing an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and

b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a vasodilator.

15 8. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a vasodilator alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse without adverse side effects; and

b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a vasodilator.

9. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

- a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a combination pharmacotherapy medication alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and
- b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a combination pharmacotherapy medication.

10. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

- a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a combination pharmacotherapy medication alone has become one of less effective and ineffective in inducing an erection suitable for sexual intercourse; and
- b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a combination pharmacotherapy medication.

11. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

- a) the human male subject is a subject for whom a combination pharmacotherapy medication alone has never induced an erection suitable for sexual intercourse without adverse side effects; and
- b) the erectile dysfunction medication is a combination pharmacotherapy medication.

12. A method as in claim 2, wherein:

- a) the erectile dysfunction medication is a vasodilator;
- b) the human male subject is a subject for whom a vasodilator used alone is

ineffective; and

c) the momentary vacuum therapy and administration of the vasodilator are used by the human male subject periodically and regularly for eventually achieving a natural erection without the use of the vasodilator and momentary vacuum therapy.

5 13. A method as in claim 1, wherein:

a) the momentary vacuum therapy is used by the human male subject periodically and regularly for eventually achieving a natural erection without the use of the momentary vacuum therapy.

10 14. A method for treating a human male subject having erectile dysfunction, for producing an erection suitable for sexual intercourse, comprising:

a) administering at most a clinically recommended dose of an erectile dysfunction medication to the human male subject having erectile dysfunction; and

15 b) momentarily physically dilating an arterial wall of the penis of the human male subject for causing an increased amount of blood to flow into an artery of the penis of the human male subject.

15. A method as in claim 14, wherein:

a) the erectile dysfunction medication is sildenafil citrate.

16. A method as in claim 14, wherein:
 - a) the erectile dysfunction medication is alprostadil.